A Choice Collection of Ayres
For the
HARPSICHORD or SPINET
With very Plain & Easey Directions for Young Beginners
Never Before Published
Composed By these Eminent Masters, viz.
Dr. John Blow
Master of the Boys & Organist to the Chappel-Royal & St Peters Westm.
Mr. Francis Piggot
Also Organist of the Kings Chappel & the Temple
Mr. Jeremiah Clarke
Organist of St Pauls Cathedral & Composer of the Musick Used in the Theatre Royal
Mr. John Barrett
Musick Master & Organist to Christs Hospital & St Mary-Hill Church
& Mr. William Crofts

Carefully Corrected by each Master
And Fairly Engraven on Copper-Plates

LONDON Printed and Sold by John Young Musicall Instrument Seller
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Goalnout
Fleet
Elami
Dischee
Efleet
Bme
Ave
Gemet

46
5
73

BRITISH MUSEUM

The Publisher to the Reader

The Harpsichord is an Instrument of larger Extent than any Other. as being Furnished with a greater Variety of Sounds by reason of the Number of Keys, Which makes it justly Esteemed the Most Usefull & Compleatest Instrument of Musick, and therefore always made Use of in the most exquisite Compositions. And as it's Excellence has made this the Favourite Instrument of the best Masters, So it's neatness & easiness in Playing on hath so particularly Recommended it to the Fair Sex, that few Ladys of Quality Omitt to Learn on it, And for their Sake it is that ye Masters from time to time Comunicate Their Compositions; Whereof the Present Volume is a Collection Which the Worthy Gentlemen mentioned in the Title have been Pleased to Favour me with & Permitt me to Publish After Naming ye men that Composed these Lessons 'twould be Presumption & Impertinence to Offer at a Character of 'em, & tis Sufficient to Assure the Reader that they are Genuine

Directions *to the* Learner.

When you have perfectly Learnt your Gammut, Observe these further Directions.

1. *Lessons on the Harpsichord are prickt on Six lines above and Six lines below, which are called Staves, and joyned together, usually by this mark* } *as for Example.*

The upper Stave or six lines contains the Treble part which is performed on ye Right Hand keys.

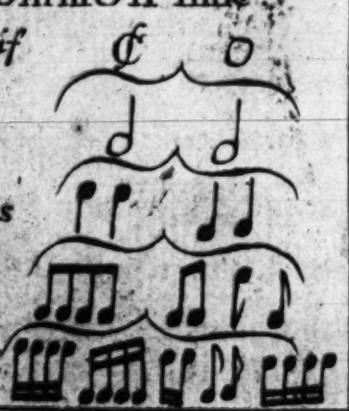
The lower Stave or six lines has the Bass Prickt on it and is performed by the Left Hand keys.

2. *The number of keys as you may see in the Scale, is usually 31. Black and 21. white ones tho sometimes more are added in extraordinary cases whereof ye white are half notes or flats and sharps to ye black keys.*

3. *A Sharp is marked thus (♯) which being placed before any note shews that it must be played on ye white key above, which makes it Sound half a note higher. A Flatt is marked thus (♭) and signifies that the Inner or white key below must be touchd. By above we mean the keys Encreasing from the left hand, and below, the keys Decreasing from the Right hand.*

4. *The 4. lowest and the 4. highest notes cannot be expresst on the 6. lines and therefore when they are to be playd, a short or Leger line is made on purpose as you may se in the scale, these are calld Double as BB. mi. CC. fa. ut. DD. sol. re. EE. la. mi. in the bass, and are markd below ye 6. lines, as AA. la. mi. re. BB. fa. b. mi. CC. sol. fa. DD. la. sol. re. in ye Treble are above, and are calld in alt. as being ye very highest.*

Common Time



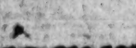
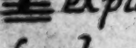
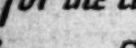
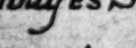
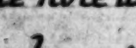
Triple Time.

Example of the Time or Length of Notes 5

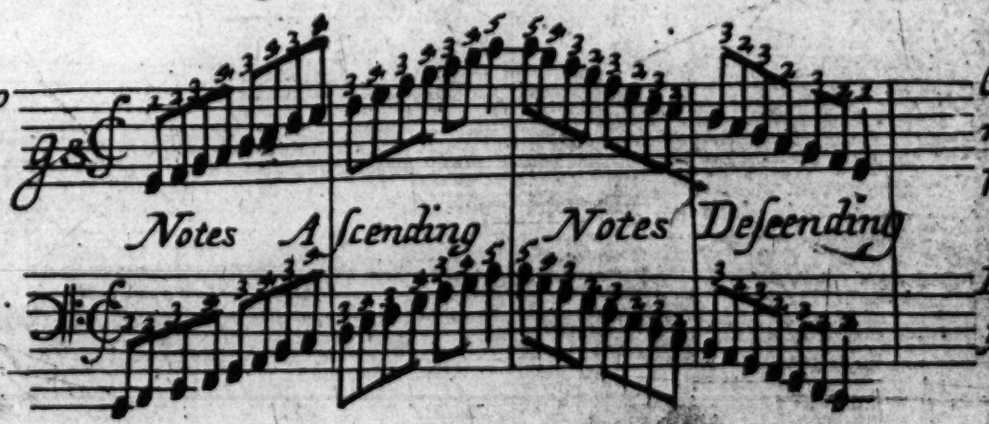
There is nothing adds so much Luster and Beauty to a lesson as that of playing good time of which there is two sorts, Common time and Triple time and is distinguished by this C this ¢ or this 𝅗𝅥 mark The first is a very slow movement the next a little faster and the last a brisk and airry time and each of them has allwayes to the length of one Sembreif in a bar which is to be held in playing so long as you can Modestly tell four by saying one two three four. two minums as long as one Sembreif four Crotchets as long as two Minums eight Quavers as long as four Crotchets Sixteen Semiqvavers as long as eighte Quavers.

Triple time Consists of either three or Six Crotchets in a bar and is to be known by this $\frac{3}{2}$ this $\frac{3}{4}$ this $\frac{3}{8}$ or this $\frac{6}{4}$ mark to the first there is three minums in a bar and is commonly playd very Slow the Second has three Crotchets in a bar and they are to be playd slow. the third has the same as the former but is playd faster the last has Six Crotchets in a bar and is Commonly to brisk tunes as jiggs and Paspys when there is a prick or dot following any Note it is to be held half as long again as the Note it selfe is, let it be Sembreif, minum, Crotchet, or Quaver, when you see a Sembreif rest you are to leave of playing so long as you can be in Counting four a minum rest so long as you tell two, and a crotchet rest one and so in proportion a Quaver and Semiquaver you may know how these rests are marked in the five lines under the Example of Time.

Rules for Graces.

A Shake is mark'd thus explain'd thus  a beat mark'd thus explain'd thus a plain
Shake thus explain'd thus a fore fall mark'd thus explain'd thus a back fall mark'd thus explain'd thus
a mark for the turn thus  explain'd thus the mark for the Shake turn'd thus explain'd thus observe
that you allwayes Shake from the note above, and beat from the note or half note below, according to the key you play in, &
for the plane note and Shake if it be a note without a poynt you are to hold half the quantity of it plain, and that upon the note above that which is mark'd and Shake the other half, but if it be a note with a point to it, you are to hold all the note plain, and Shake only the point, a Shar is mark'd thus explain'd thus  the mark for the battery thus
explain'd thus  the bass Clift thus the Tenner Clift thus the Treble Clift thus a bar mark'd
thus at the end of every time that it may be the more easy to keep time, a Double bar is mark'd thus  and Set down
at the end of every Straine, which imports you must play the Straine twice, a repeat is mark'd thus and Signifies
you must repeat from the note to the end of the Straine, or lesson to know what key a tune is in, observe the last note or
Close of the tune for by that note the key is nam'd, all Round O end with the first Straine.

Notes Ascending Notes Descending

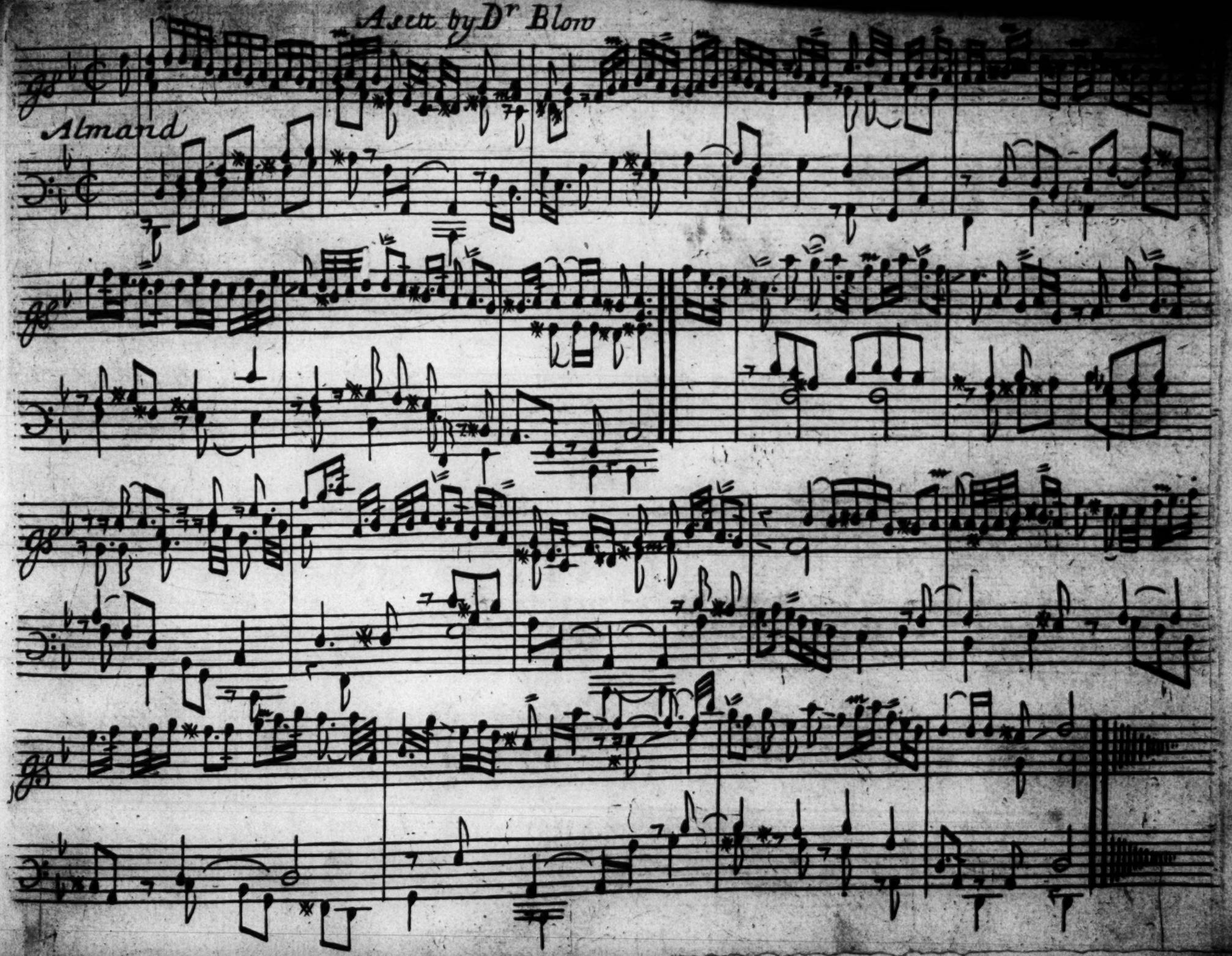


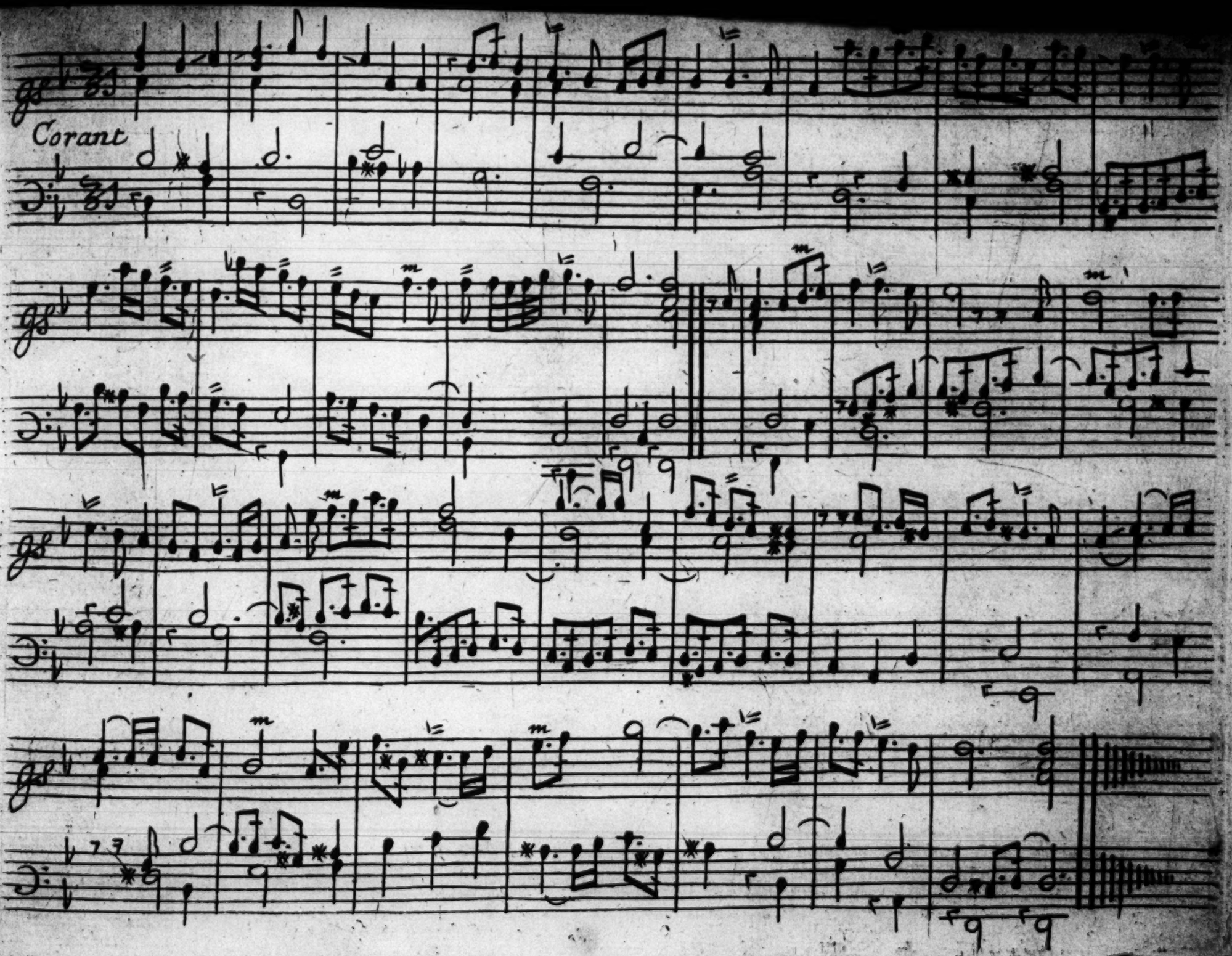
Right hand y^e Fingers to ascend are y^e 3. and 4th. to Descend y^e 3^d. and 2^d.

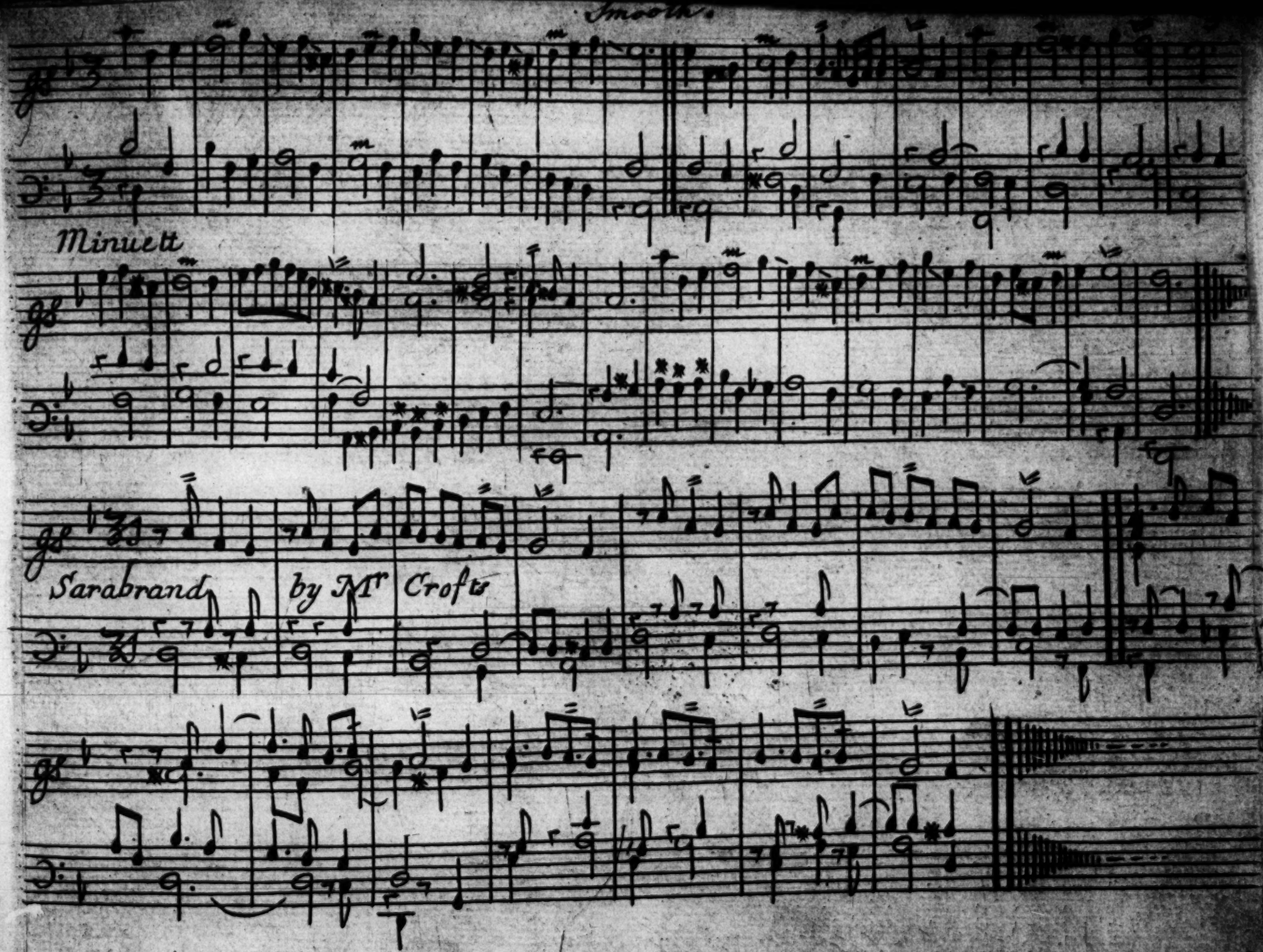
Observe in y^e fingering of your right hand your thumb is the first so on to y^e 5th.

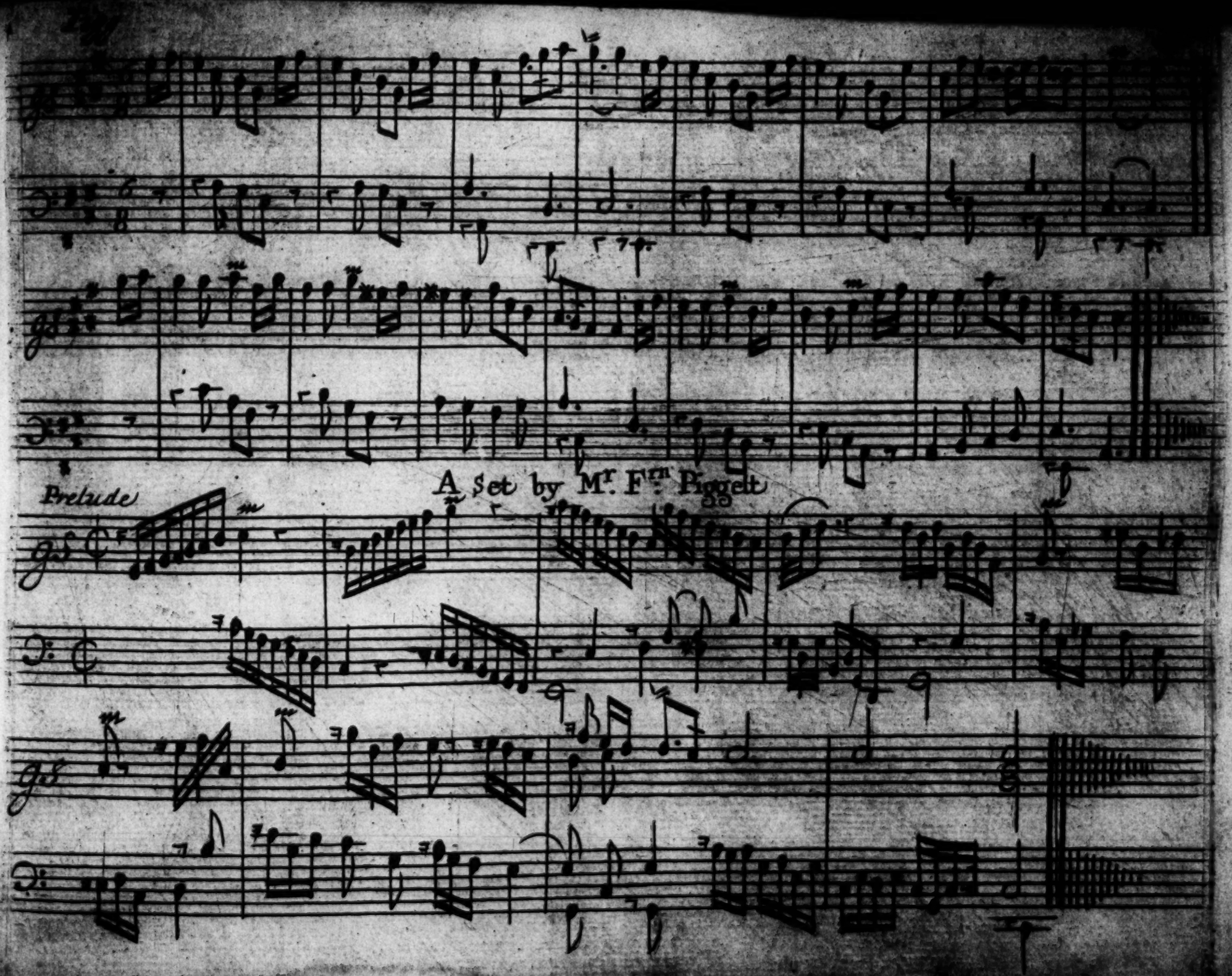
Left hand the Fingers to ascend are y^e 4th. and 5th. to Descend y^e 3^d. and 2^d.

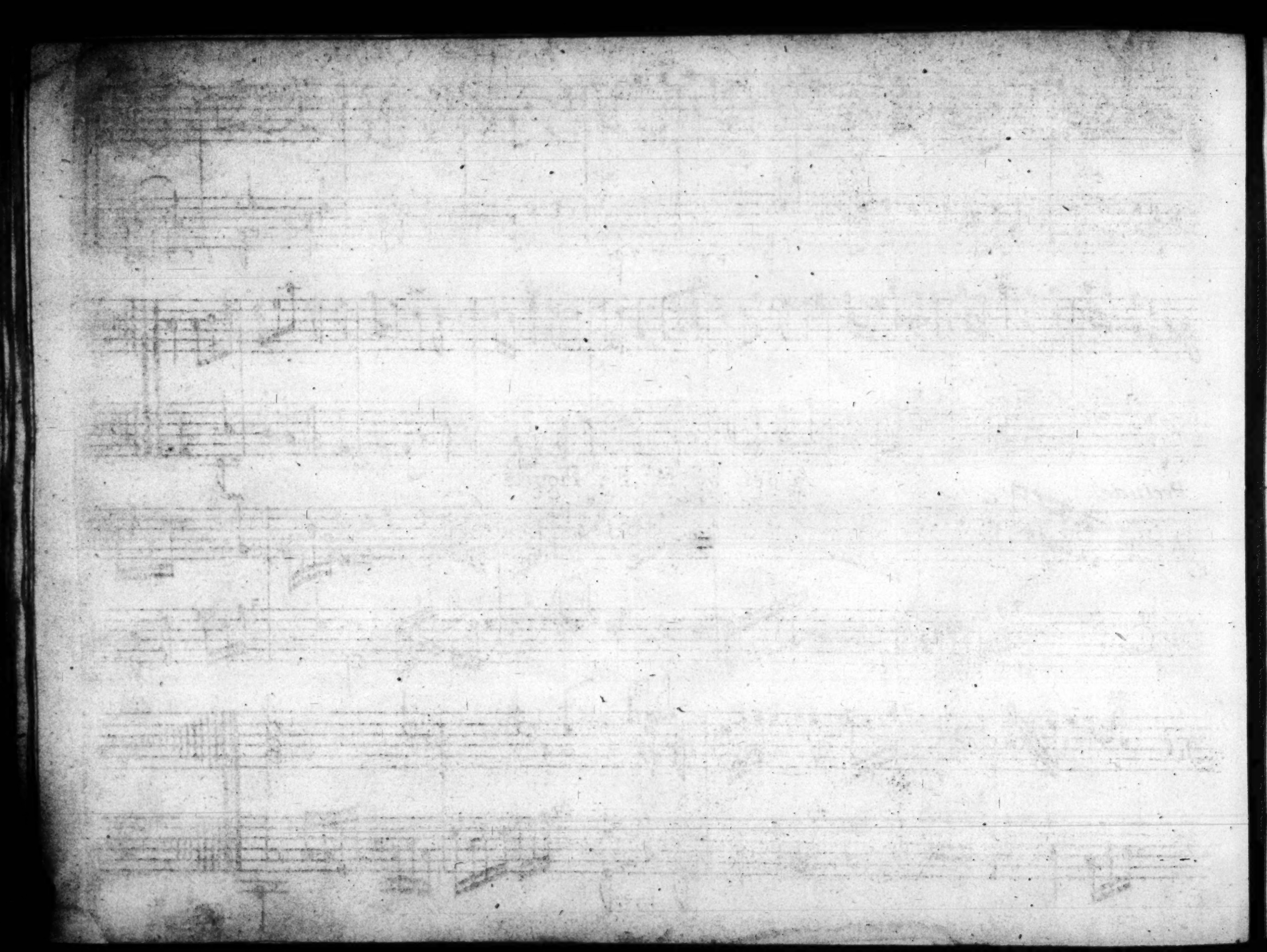
In y^e fingering of your left hand your little finger is y^e 1. so on to the 5th.

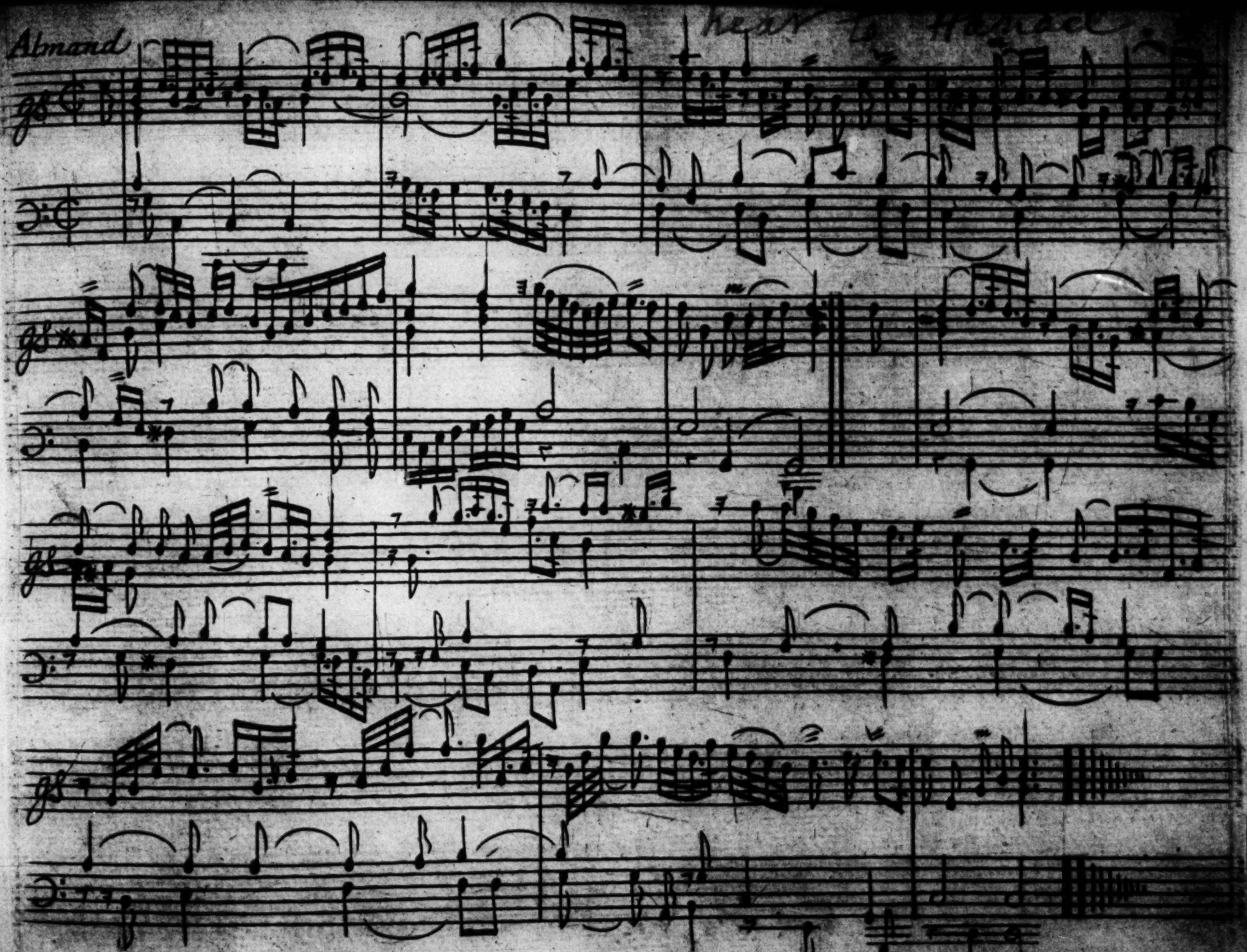

A sett by Dr Blow
Almand

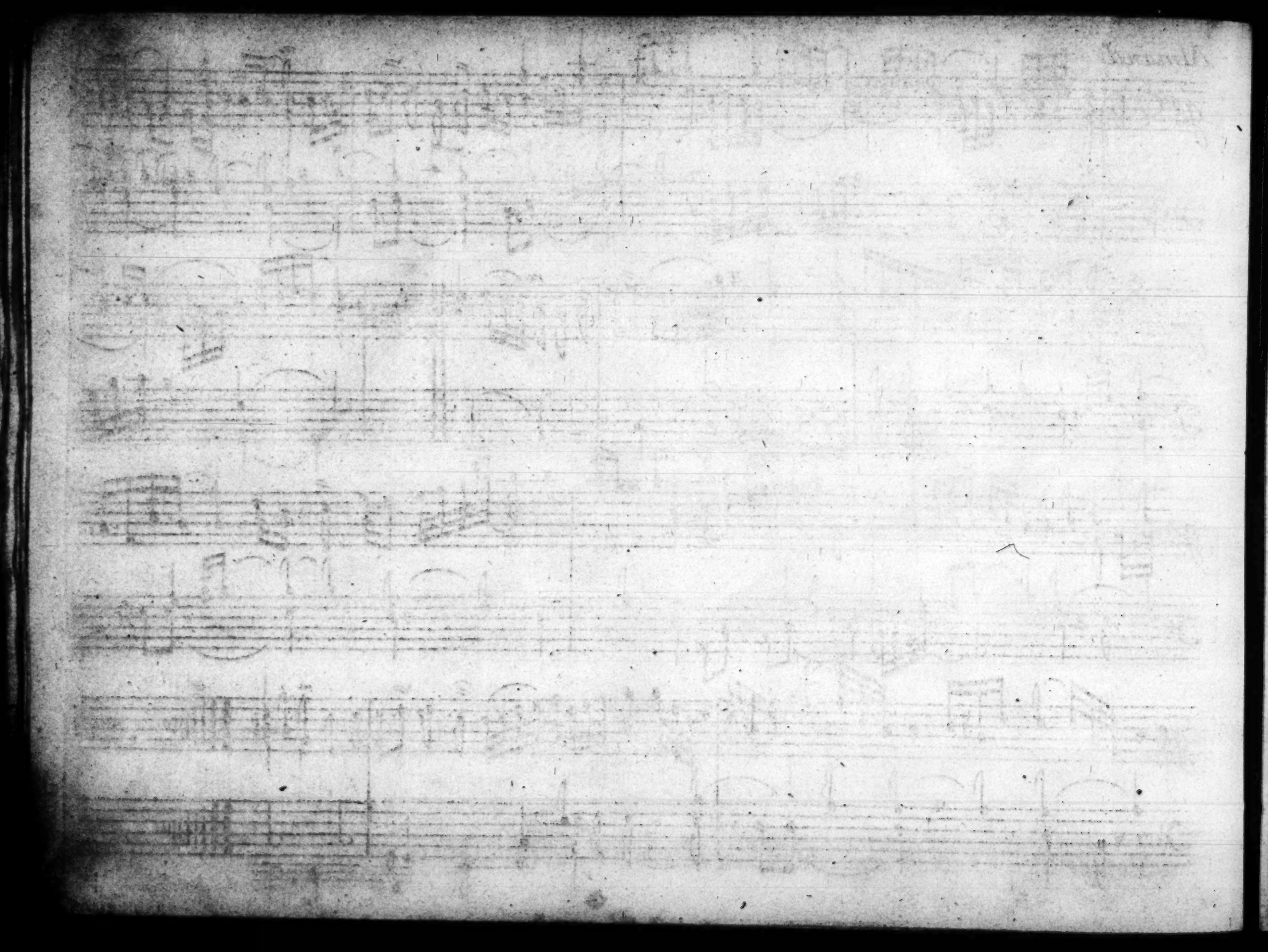

Corant

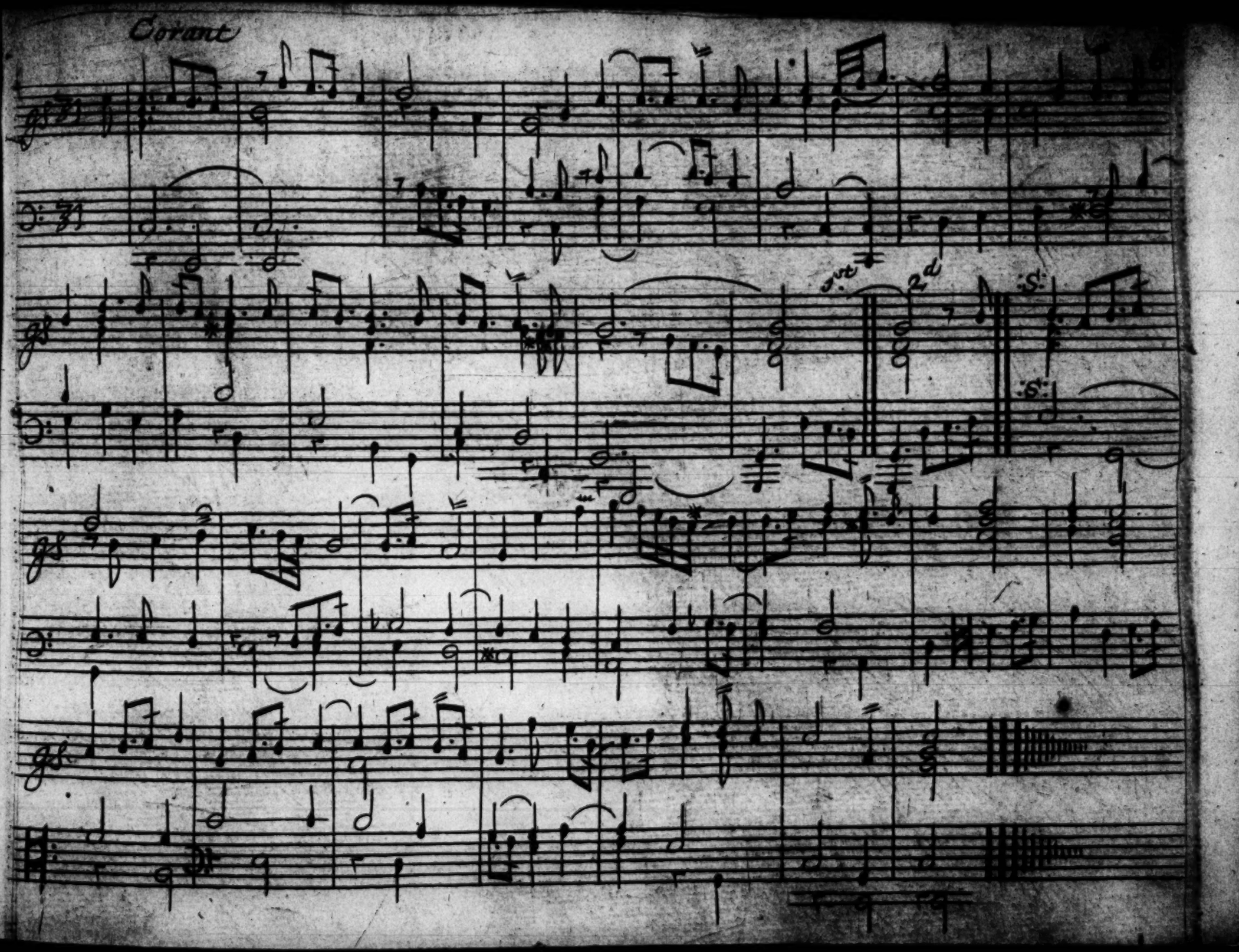

Smooth.
Minuett
Sarabrand
by Mr Crofts

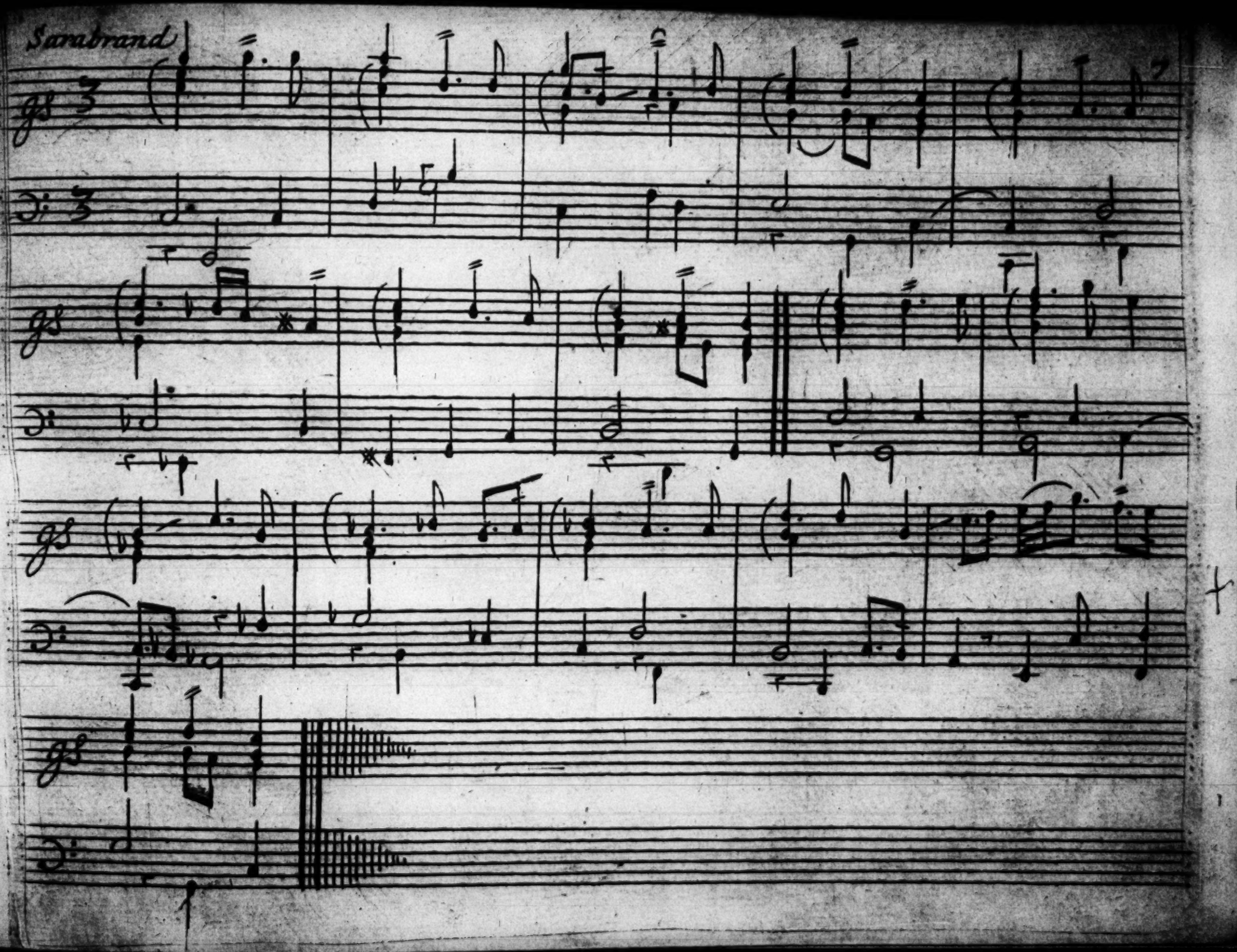

A Set by Mr. Frn. Piggett
Prelude

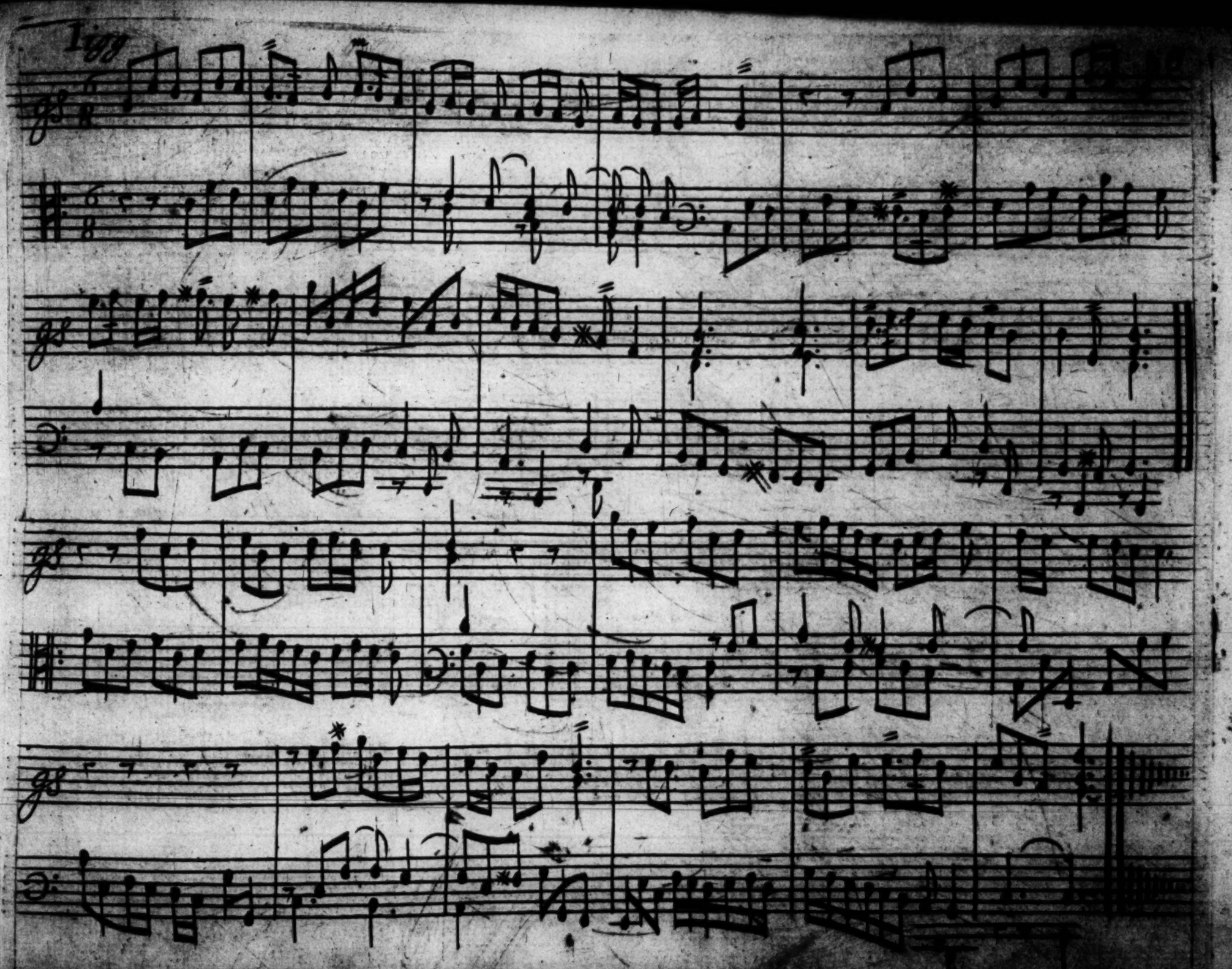


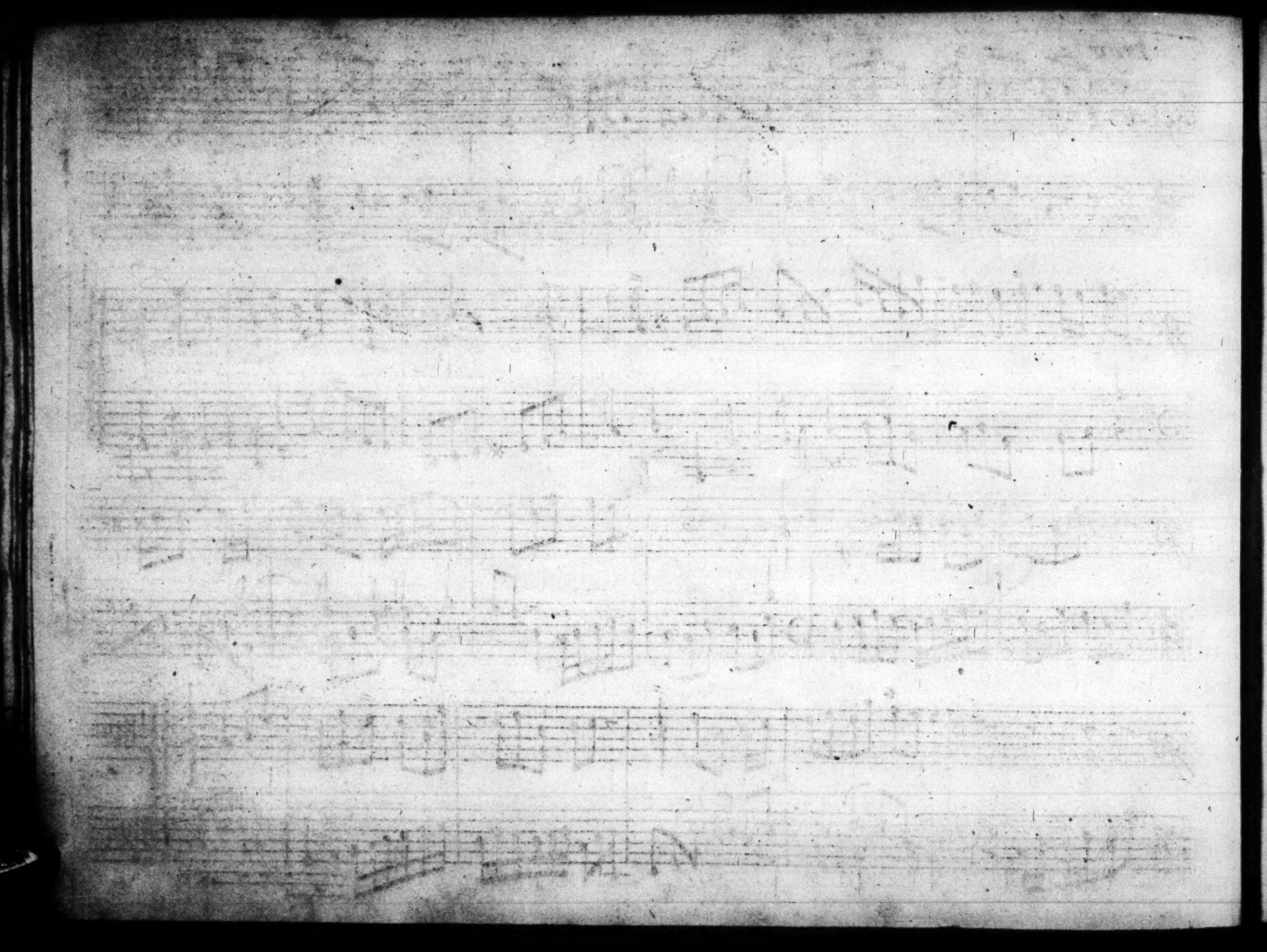

Almand

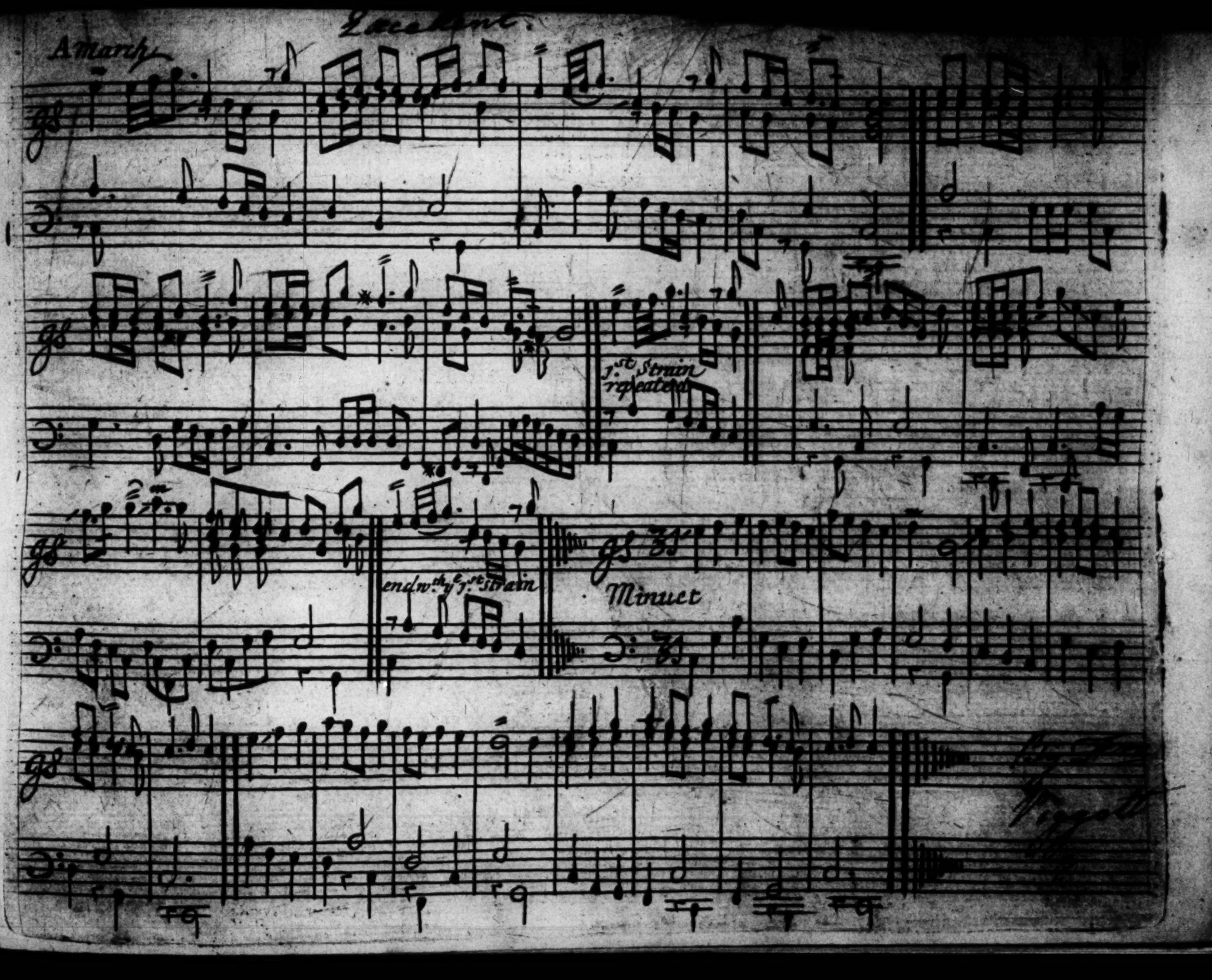


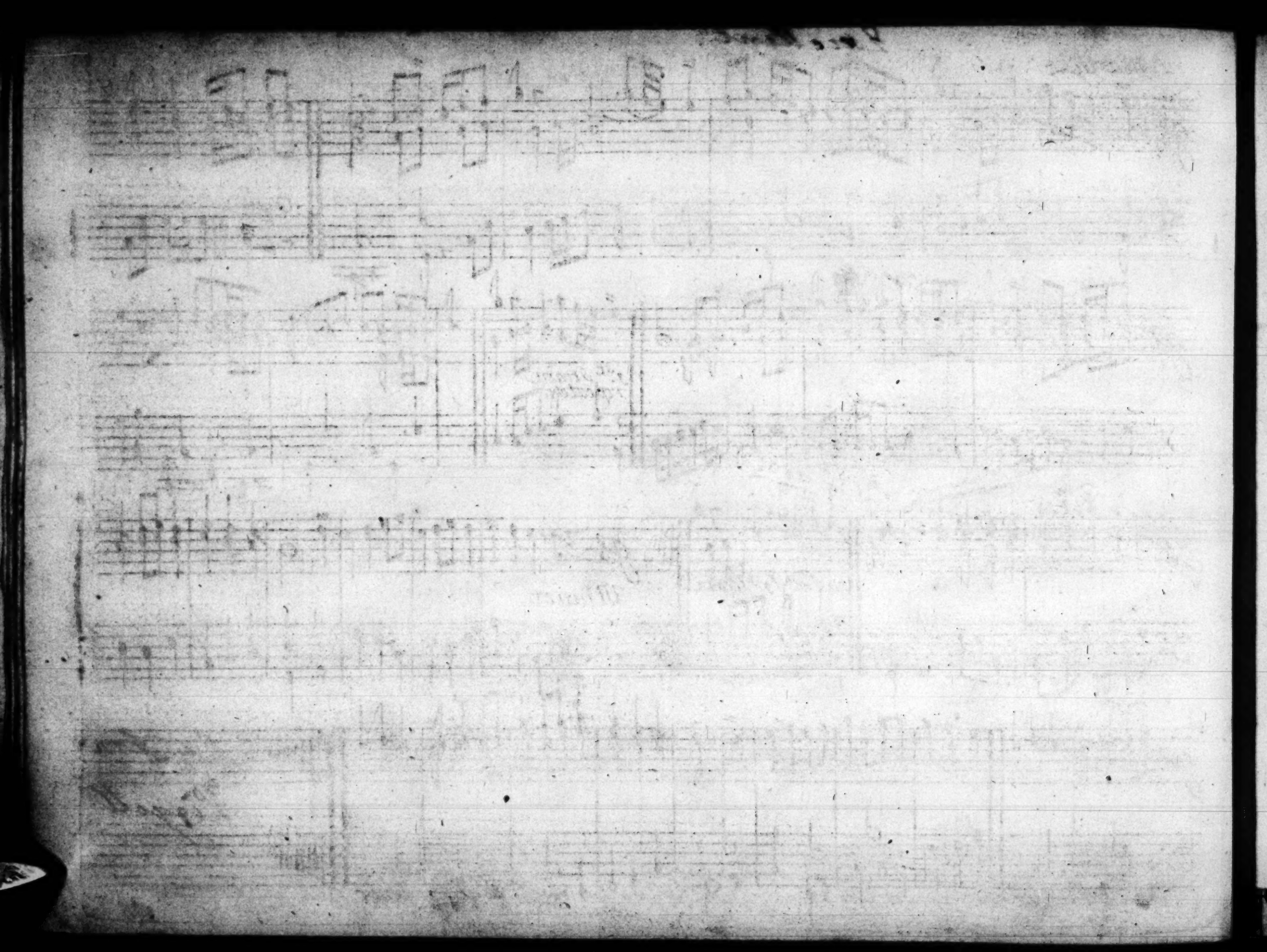

Corant
1st
2d


Sarabrand

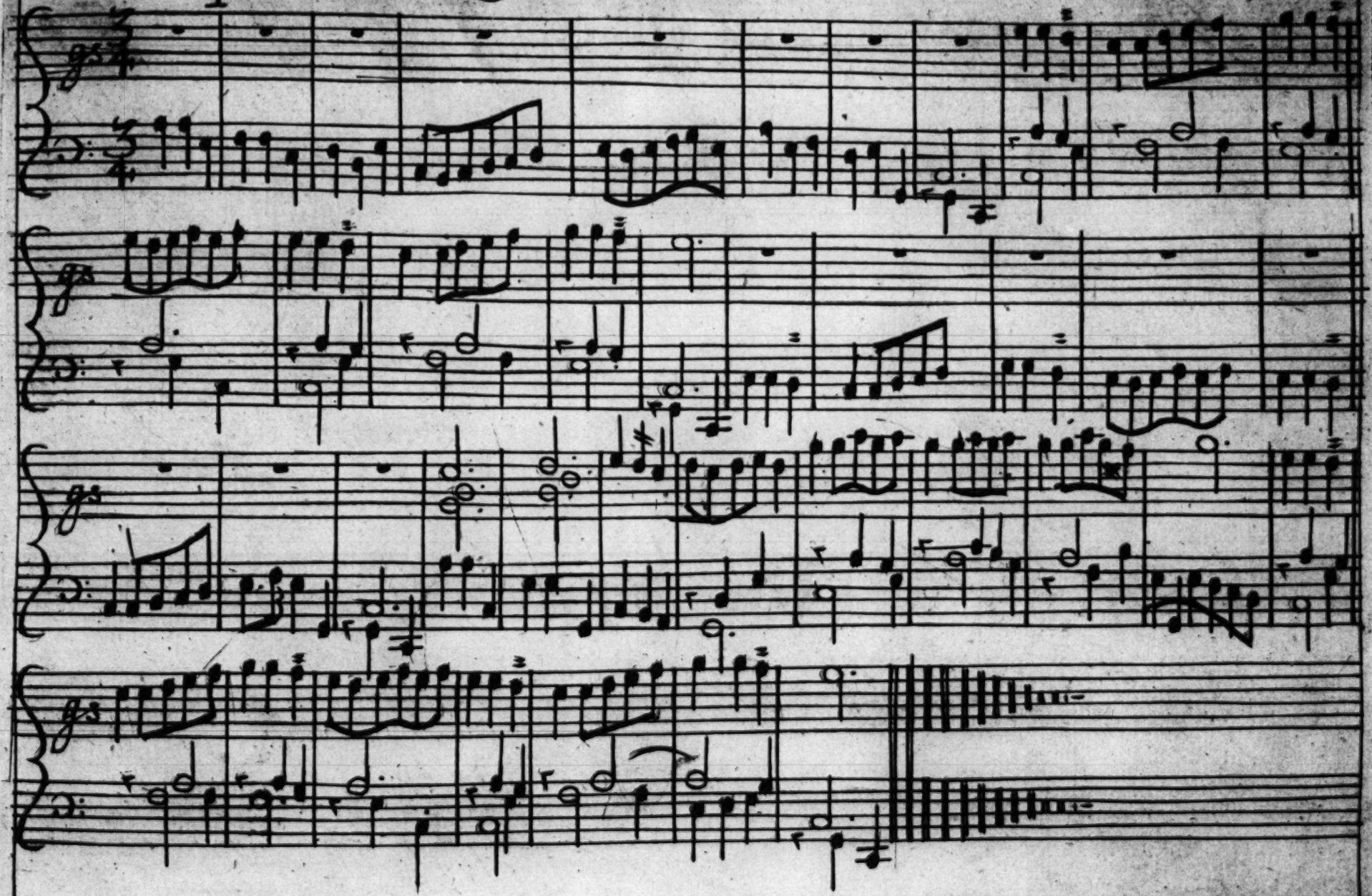




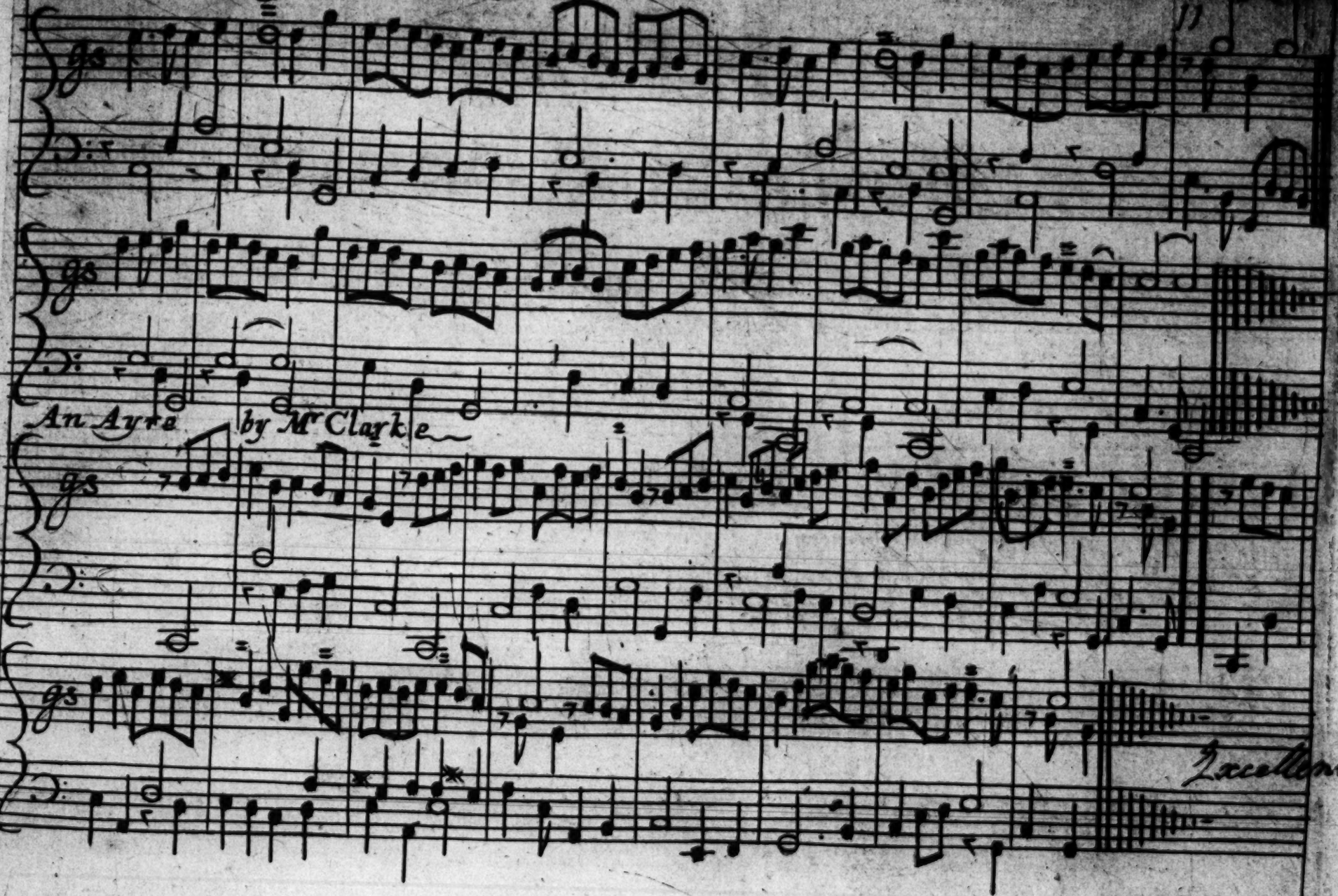

Excellent.
A March
1.st Strain repeated
end w.th y.e 1.st Strain
Minuet



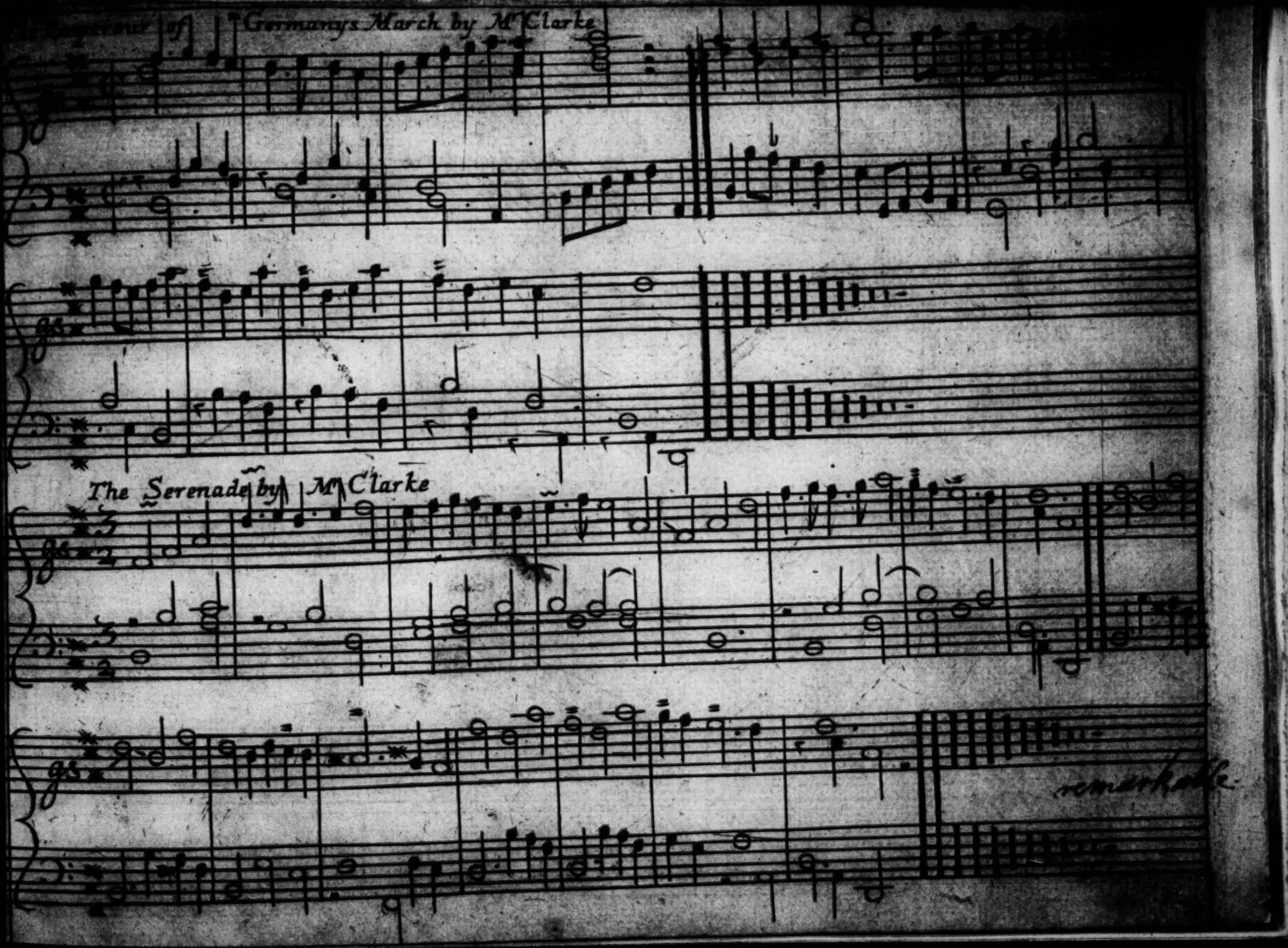
A Trumpett Minnuett by Mr Clarke

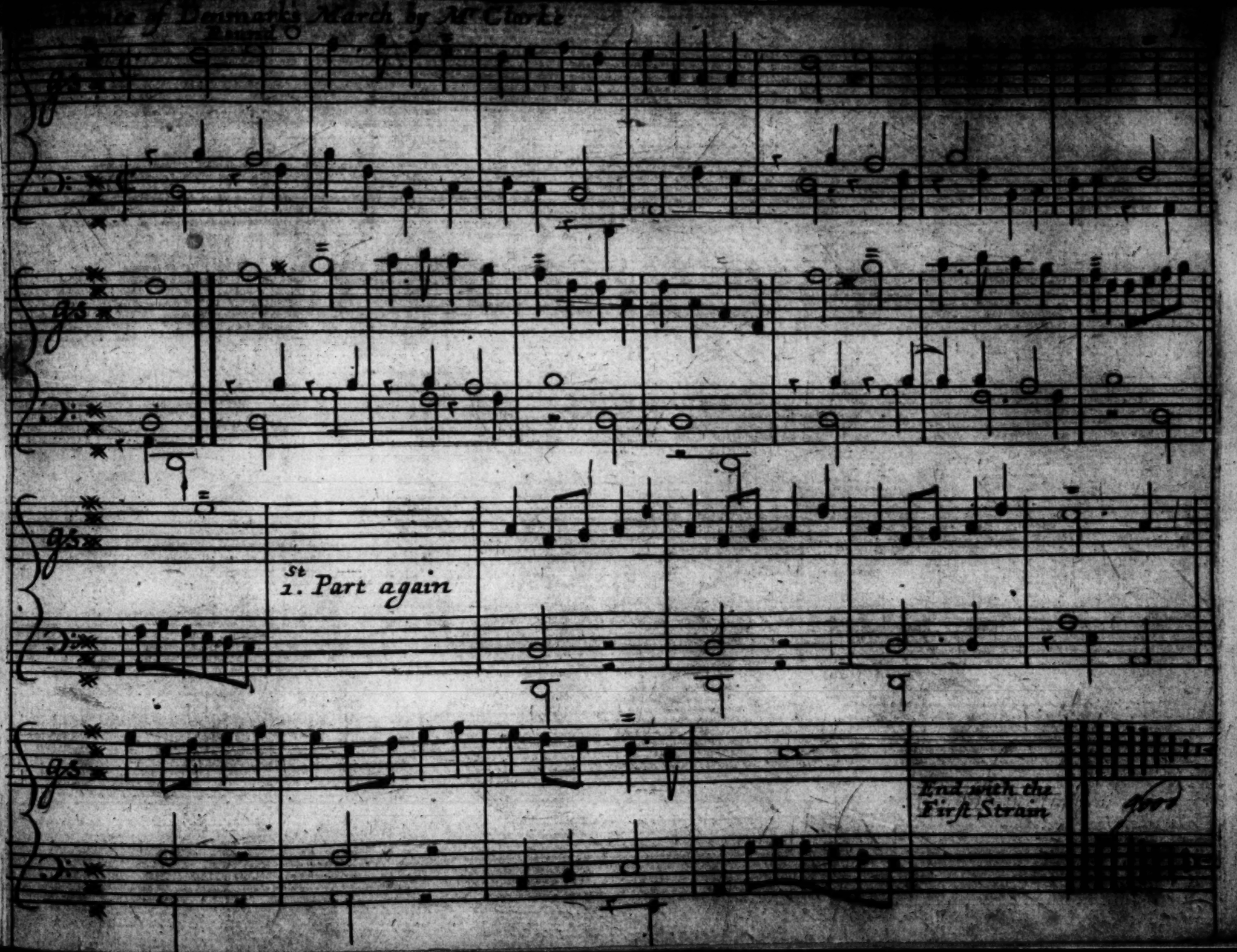


A March by Mr Clarke



An Ayre by Mr Clarke


Germanys March by Mr Clarke
The Serenade by Mr Clarke



Prince of Denmark's March by Mr Clarke

Round

gs

gs

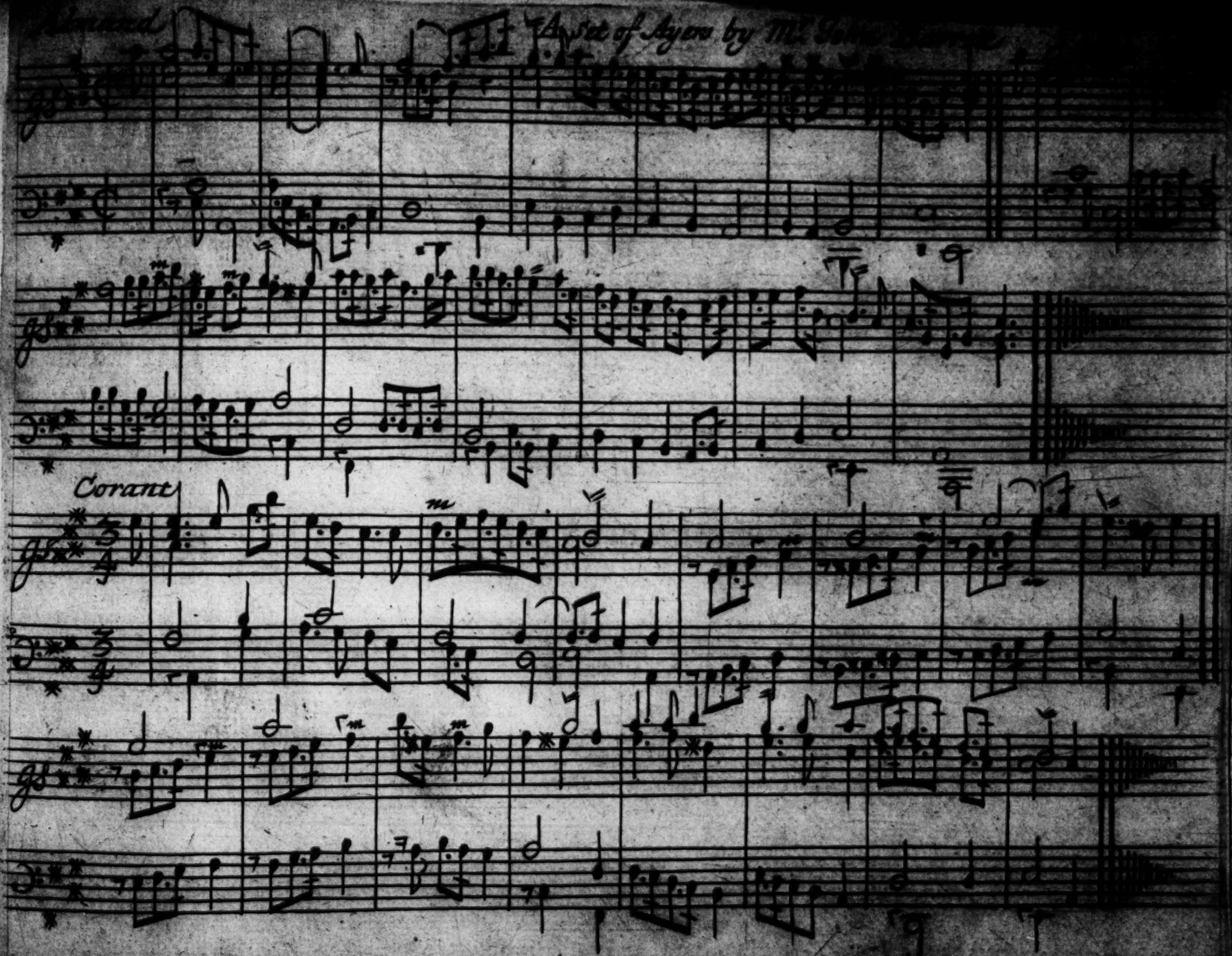
gs

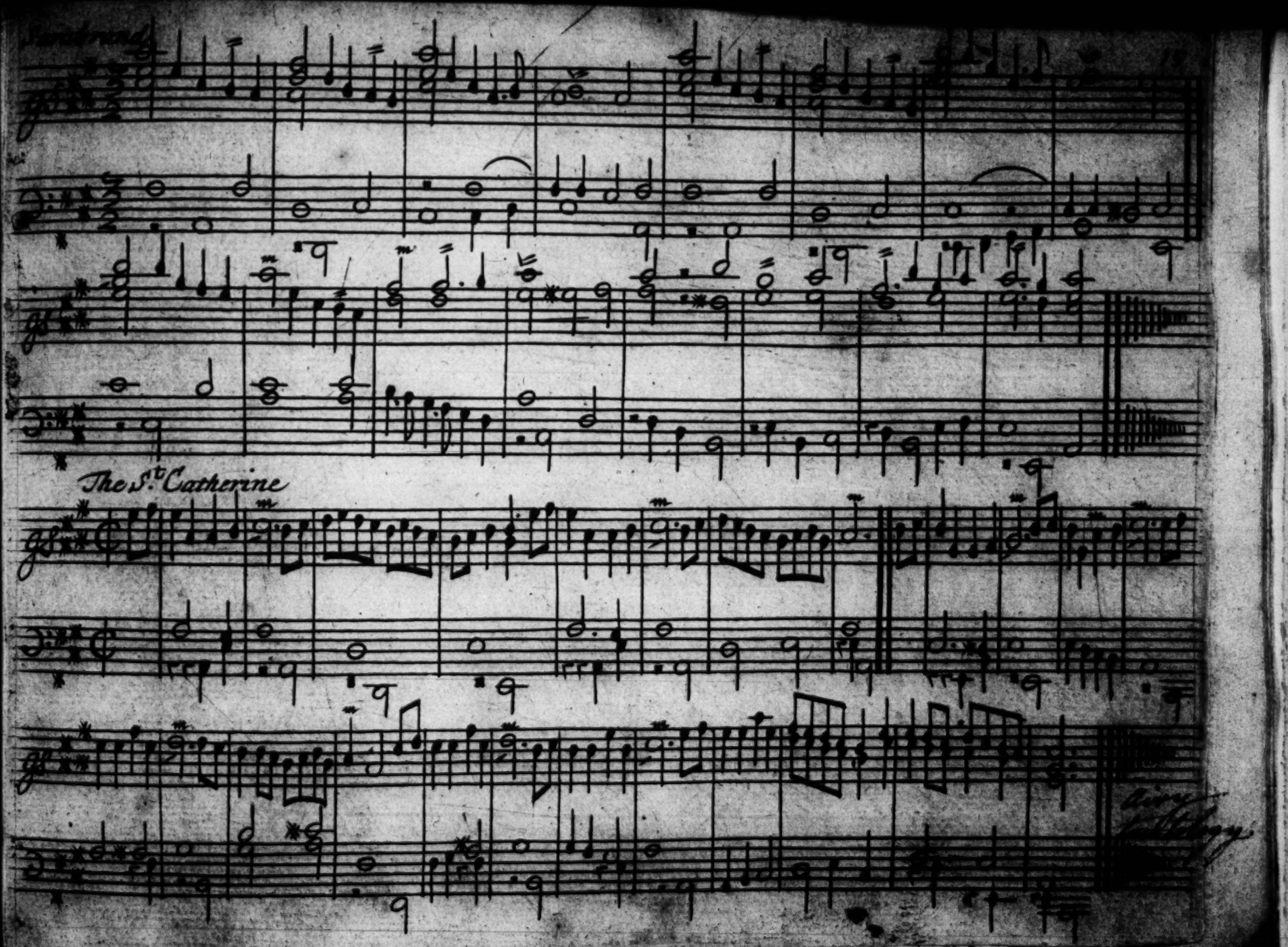
1st Part again

gs

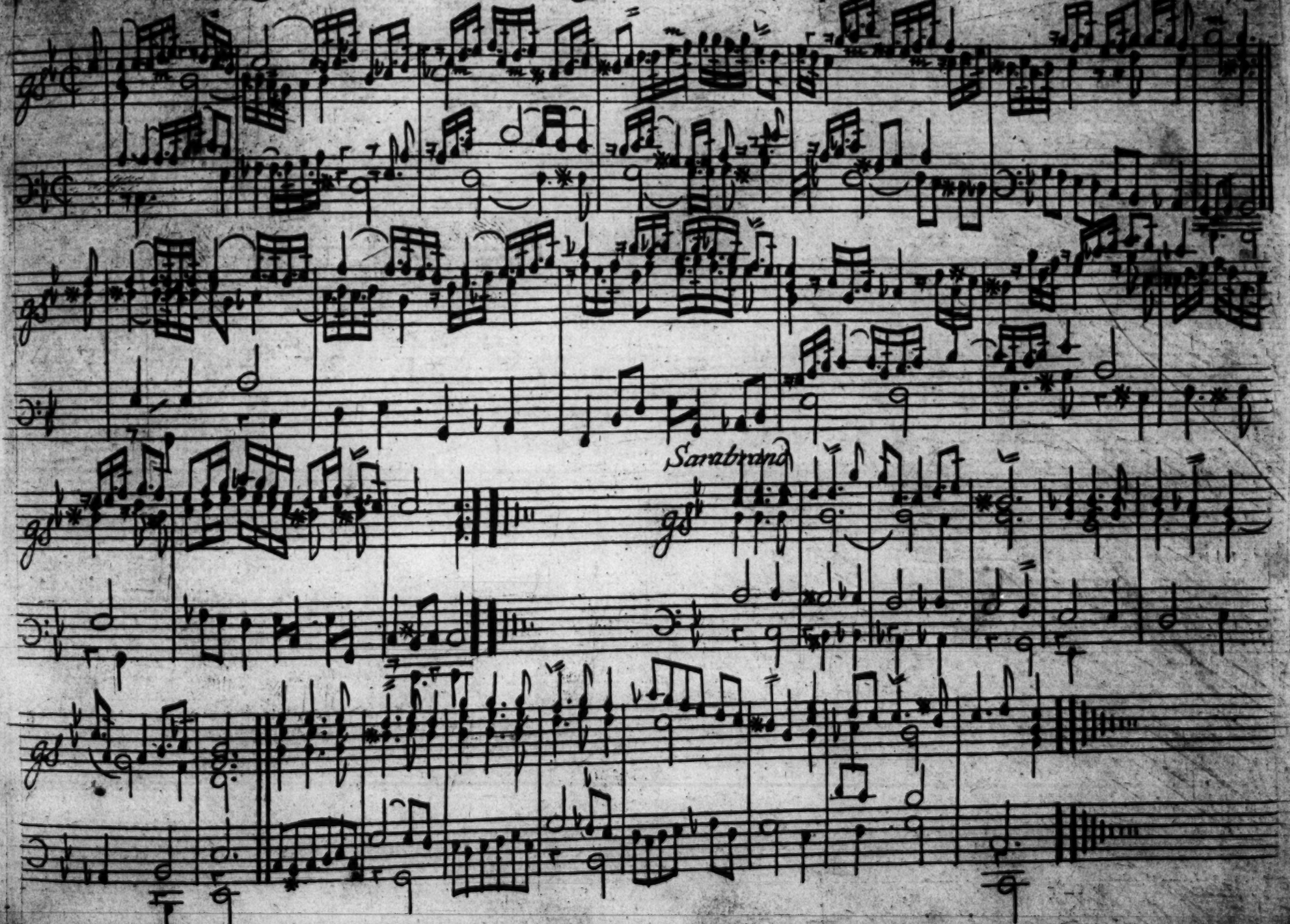
End with the First Strain

Good

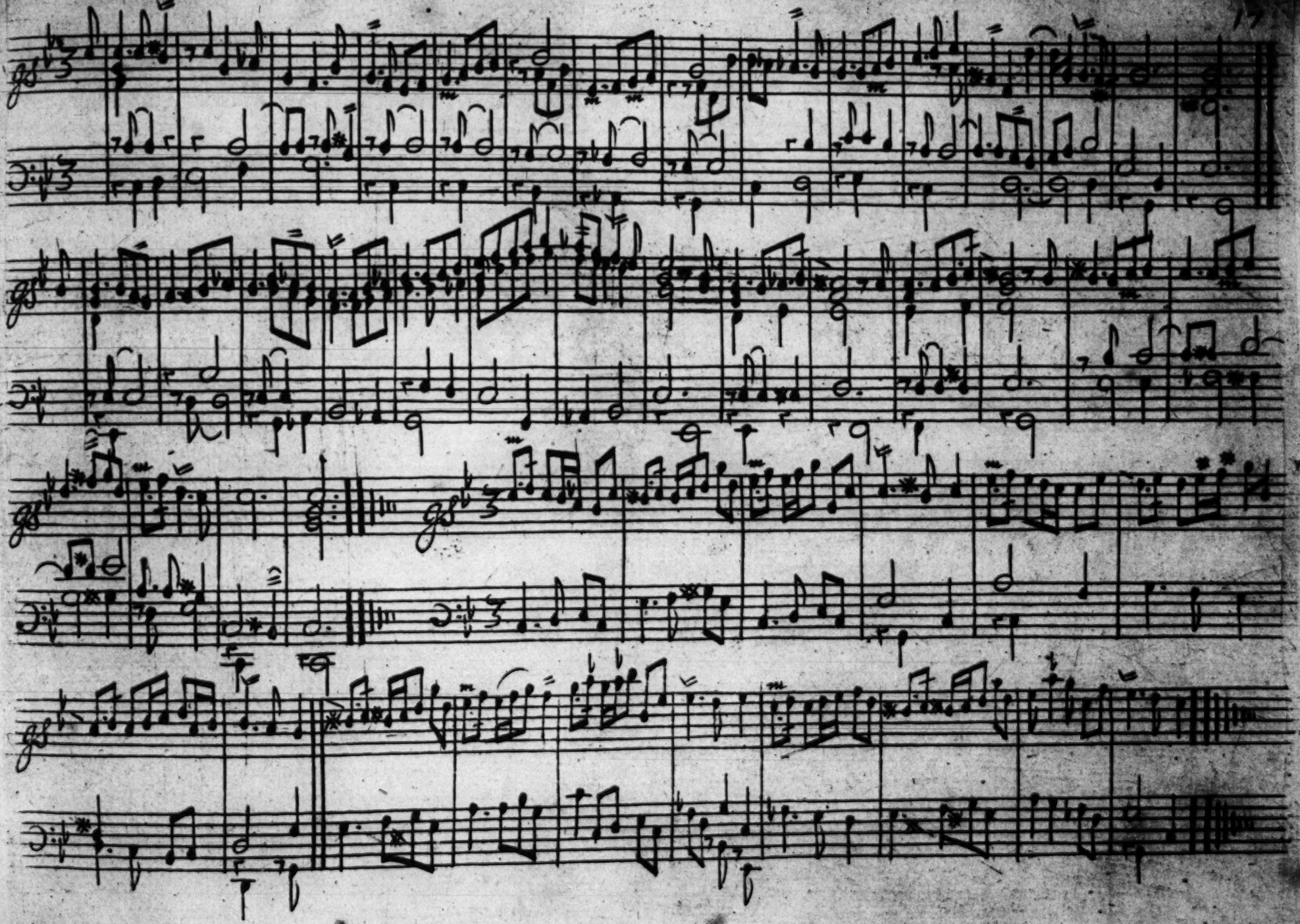

A Set of Ayres by M
Corant


The St. Catherine

A set by Mr: Wm Croft

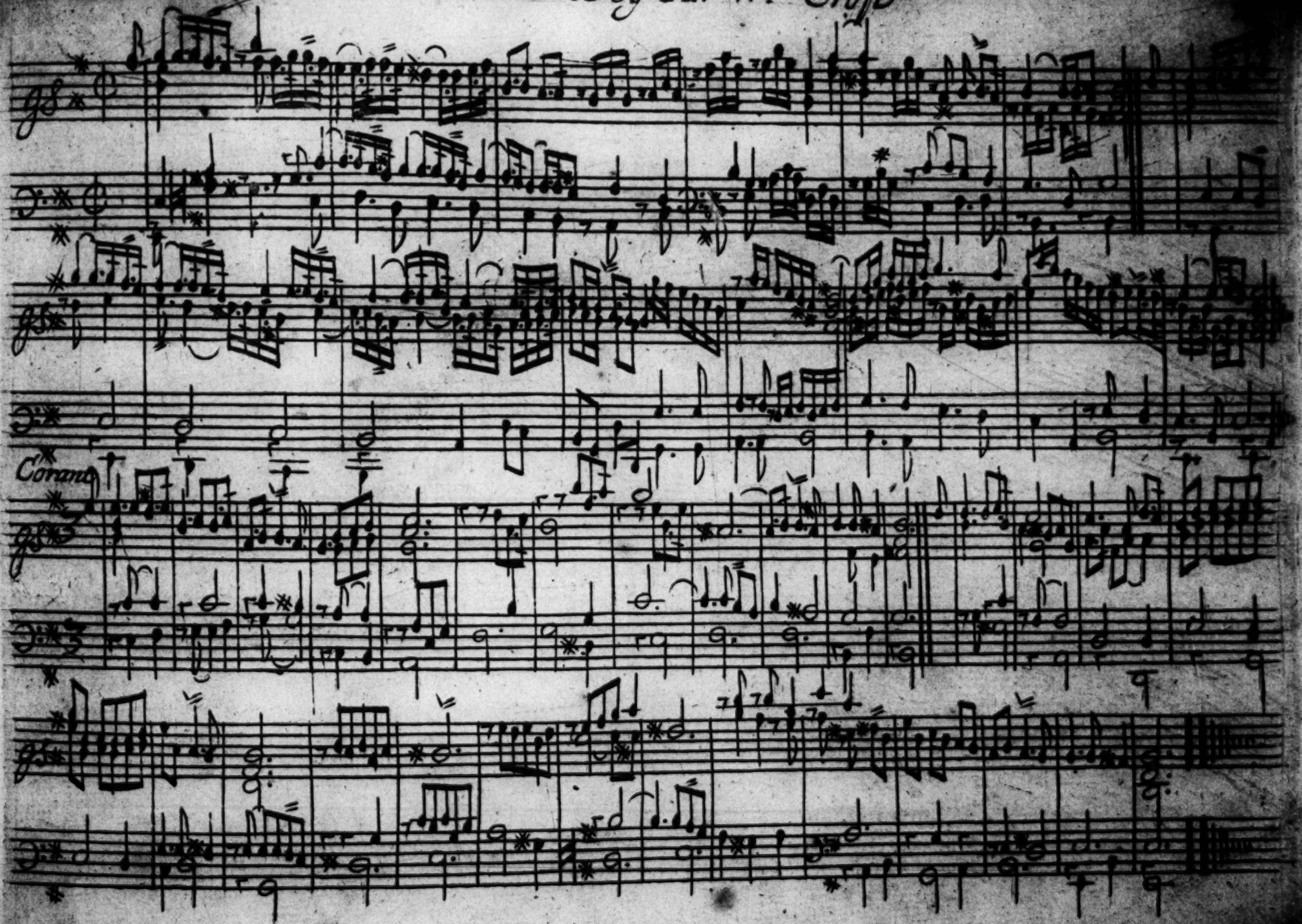
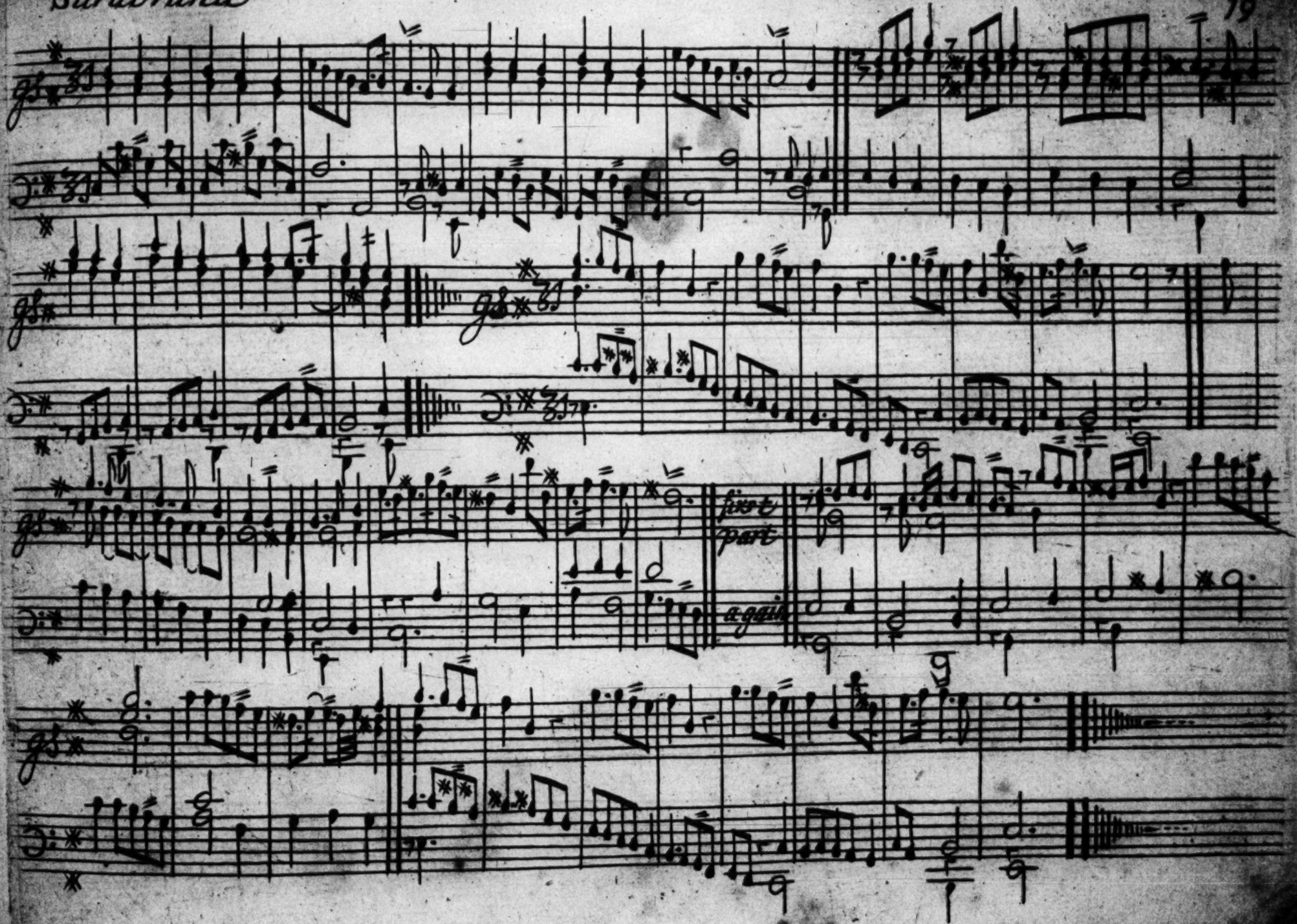


Corant



Almand

A set by Mr. Wm Croft



Sarabrand